

16, 18 jointly constituting a capacitor. When, under such condition, key top 42 is pressed downward, key top 42 is brought downward together with vertically movable stem 30. When key top 42 drops to a prescribed position, vertically movable stem 30 crushes cylindrical portion 24b of holder 24, thereby causing movable conductive rubber contact 28 of holder 24 to contact both first and second fixed contacts 20, 22. Therefore, the pulse generator is connected to the receiver circuit through first and second fixed contacts 20, 22 which are electrically connected to each other by means of movable conductive rubber contact 28. As a result, a pulse voltage signal is supplied to the receiver circuit from the capacitor which includes first and second electrodes 16, 18. At this time, key switch 12 is rendered conducting.

When a pressing force is released from key top 42, then key top 42, together with vertically movable stem 30, is pushed upward by the righting moment of holder 24. Since cylinder 24b of holder 24 regains the position indicated in FIG. 2, movable conductive rubber contact 28 is detached from both first and second fixed contacts 20, 22. Therefore, the first and second fixed contacts 20, 22 are electrically disconnected. Under this condition, a pulse signal is not supplied to the receiver circuit, rendering key switch 12 nonconducting.

This invention is not limited to a key switch according to the above-mentioned embodiment. If a coil spring 50 (indicated in 2 dots-dash lines in FIG. 2) is provided between key top 42 and guide housing 32, then key top 42 can regain its original position quickly, enabling an optional force to be applied for the downward pressing of key top 42.

Description may now be made with reference to FIGS. 6 to 10 of the modifications of first and second fixed contacts 20, 22. Throughout FIGS. 6 to 10, first fixed contact 20 is formed of first conductive layer 52 mounted on the surface of the substrate 14. Second fixed contact 22 consists of second conductive layer 54 interdigitating first conductive layer 52.

Referring to FIG. 6, first and second conductive layers 52, 54 are first fabricated in the semicircular form. A suitable number of notches are cut out in both conductive layer 52, 54. Projections of both interdigitated conductive layers 52, 54 are inserted in the corresponding notches of the other. More particularly projections 52b, 54b are inserted into corresponding notches 52a and 54a.

Referring to FIG. 7, first conductive layer 52 comprises double rings 52c cut off at one point and straight section 52d crosswise bridging the double rings 52c and occupying the same position as first fixed contact 20. Second conductive layer 54 comprises a ring 54c interposed between double rings 52c of first conductive layer 52 and section 54d crosswise bridging the ring 54c and bearing the same shape as second fixed contact 22.

Referring to FIG. 8, first conductive layer 52 is formed like a comb whose base 52e has a semicircular form and second conductive layer 54 is similarly formed like a comb whose base 54e also has a semicircular form. Teeth 52f of first conductive layer 52 interdigitate teeth 54f of second conductive layer 54.

Referring to FIG. 9, first conductive layer 52 is fabricated in the form of a comb where base is made straight, and second conductive layer 54 is also shaped like a comb whose base is also made straight. The teeth of first conductive layer 52 interdigitate those of second conductive layer 54. Further as illustrated in FIG. 9,

one digit constituting one end of the base 52g of comb-shaped first conductive layer 52 extends outward from the base 54a. One digit constituting one end of the base of comb-shaped second conductive layer 54 which faces the said one digit of first conductive layer 52 also extends outward from the base.

Referring to FIG. 10, first and second semicircular conductive layers 52, 54 face each other at the base. An outward projecting linear connecting portion is formed at that part of the periphery of first semicircular conductive layer 52 which is close to the base, and an outward projecting linear connecting portion is also formed at that part of the periphery of second conductive layer 54 which is close to the base in such a manner that the projecting connecting portion extends in a diametrically opposite direction than that of first conductive layer 52.

Throughout the foregoing embodiments, first and second fixed contacts are formed in second electrode layer 18. However, this invention is not limited to this arrangement. As shown in FIG. 11, first and second fixed contacts 20, 22 may be formed on the periphery of second electrode layer 18. Further, first and second electrode layers 16, 18 need not assume a rectangular form. For instance, they may be shaped like a circle as illustrated in FIG. 11. At any rate, no limitation is imposed on the shape of the respective electrode layer.

What is claimed is:

1. A key switch interposed between a pulse generator and receiver circuit, comprising:
 - a substrate prepared from dielectric materials and having opposed first and second surfaces;
 - a first electrode formed on the first surface of the substrate and adapted to be electrically connected to one of the pulse generator and the receiver circuit;
 - a second electrode provided on the second surface of the substrate opposite to the first surface thereof to constitute a capacitor for pulsatively storing a static capacity in cooperation with the first electrode and substrate;
 - a first fixed contact formed on one of said first and second surfaces of the substrate in electric contact with the electrode positioned on said one surface;
 - a second fixed contact formed on said one surface of the substrate in the proximity of said first fixed contact and adapted to be in electric connection to other of said pulse generator and said receiver circuit; and
 - changeover means for effecting electric connection and disconnection between said first and second fixed contacts thereby to connect said pulse generator to said receiver circuit via said capacitor.
2. The key switch according to claim 1, wherein said changeover means comprises:
 - a conductive rubber movable contact which is arranged on one side of the substrate for electrically connecting the first and second fixed contacts;
 - holding means for elastically urging the movable contact so as to set it apart from the first and second fixed contacts; and
 - driving means for bringing the movable contact into contact with the first and second fixed contacts against the urging force of the holding means.
3. The key switch according to claim 2, wherein the holding means comprises a holding member prepared from elastic material and surrounded with a flange member, and provided with a movable contact on the